

SAC: 330951

State: Wisconsin

Somerset Telephone Company, Inc.

Form 481 Line No.: 1210 Terms and Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline

- (c) When the homestead tax credit is one of the customer's qualifying income assistance programs, the eligibility for lifeline assistance continues until the bill date in the next June following the end of the tax year. At that time, lack of eligibility shall be re-verified by the local exchange service provider before removing the lifeline assistance from the customer's bill.
- (5) Local exchange service providers may receive reimbursement from the universal service fund for 100% of that portion of the standard authorized rate for service which is in excess of the amount of the lifeline monthly rate which is eligible for reimbursement from federal lifeline program funds.
- (6) Customers eligible for lifeline or link-up America assistance may not be charged a deposit for service if they voluntarily accept toll blocking, may not be requested to pay in advance for more than one month's local service bill, and may not be disconnected from local service for nonpayment of toll charges billed by the local exchange service provider. Customers that otherwise would be subject to disconnection may be counseled to accept toll blocking.
- (7) A local exchange service provider acting under the limited conditions specified in its commission approved telecommunications customer assistance program under s. PSC 160.08 may impose toll blocking or restriction on lifeline customers.

PSC 160.063 Outreach for low-income assistance programs.

- (1) Funding shall be available to fund collaborative partnerships between community-based organizations and telecommunications providers to increase participation of the eligible populations in the universal service fund low-income support programs.
- (2) Funding from the universal service fund for these collaborative efforts shall not exceed \$250,000 in one year.
- (3) The commission shall annually review and grant funding based on complete responses to a request for proposals. Funding shall be limited to not more than 6 projects with at least one project focused statewide and one project focused on the Milwaukee area, if feasible.
- (4) The commission shall contract for an evaluation of the effectiveness of this program in promoting enrollment in low-income programs and subscribership to telephone service to be completed within 2 years of May 1, 2000. The cost of this evaluation shall not exceed \$25,000. This \$25,000 shall be included as part of the \$250,000 maximum total funding available under this section during the year in which the evaluation occurs.

PSC 160.08 Telecommunications customer assistance program.

The commission may authorize individual telecommunications providers to establish telecommunications customer assistance programs that meet authorized goals and objectives for increasing or stabilizing subscription levels for non-optional, essential telephone service within its service territory or to address avoidance of disconnection or limitation of service to low-income households with payment problems. Such programs may allow a provider to not make available certain essential services, as defined in s. PSC 160.03(2), in order to preserve at least minimal telephone service to certain low-income households with payment problems. The commission shall determine on a case-by-case basis whether or not a telecommunications customer assistance program may receive universal service fund monies.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
TELEPHONE RATE FILE

Exchange:	ALL
Section Number:	4
Sheet Number:	3
Amendment Number:	616

SOMERSET TELEPHONE COMPANY

Utility Name

EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICES

LIFELINE SERVICE

A. DESCRIPTION

1. Lifeline Service is a residence service offering that provides a discounted monthly rate to Customers who qualify for low-income assistance programs as defined in s. PSC 160.02(8), Wis. Adm. Code.
2. Lifeline Service provides a monthly discount to eligible residence Customers that have a network access line (including Extended Area Service), touch-tone service, 911 Service (billed on the Customer's telephone bill), and the End User Common Line Charge (EUCL). If the Customer has measured service, 120 local calls are provided. Extended Community Calling (ECC) Service is not included in Lifeline Service.
3. Lifeline Service monthly rates for residence Customers are established according to s. PSC 160.062(1), (2) and (3), Wis. Adm. Code.

B. REGULATIONS

1. Lifeline Service is only available for residence Customers with a single line Network Access Line in the same household.
2. Lifeline Service is not available to Customers who are dependents for federal income tax purposes as defined in 26 USC 152 (1986), unless the Customer is more than 60 years old.
3. Lifeline Service Customers must complete and remit any required query authorization forms requested by the Company or forfeit eligibility for Lifeline Service.
4. Eligibility for Lifeline Service must be verified by the Company by finding the Social Security Number and name of the listed Customer in active records of the Department of Workforce Development (DWD), or the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.
5. Reconfirmation of Eligibility for Lifeline Service
 - a. Reconfirmation of eligibility for Lifeline Service will be done at least once each year, and in accordance with rules established by the FCC.

Applicable to Service Rendered on and after:	2/1/2013	Date Issued
PSCW Authorization by Order No.:		Letter Date

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
TELEPHONE RATE FILE

Exchange:	ALL
Section Number:	4
Sheet Number:	4
Amendment Number:	616

SOMERSET TELEPHONE COMPANY

Utility Name

EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICES

LIFELINE SERVICE (Cont'd)

B. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

5. Reconfirmation of Eligibility for Lifeline Service (Cont'd)

- b. If a Customer cannot reconfirm eligibility for Lifeline Service, eligibility will continue until the next bill date following failure to meet the eligibility requirements.
- c. When the Low Income Household Energy Assistance Program is one of the Customer's qualifying low income assistance programs, the eligibility for Lifeline Service shall continue until the bill date in the next December following the close of the heating season. At that time, if eligibility cannot be re-verified by the Company, Lifeline Service will be removed from the Customers bill.
- d. When the Wisconsin Homestead Tax Credit is one of the Customer's qualifying low income assistance programs, the eligibility for Lifeline Service shall continue until the bill date in the next June following the end of the tax year. At that time, if eligibility cannot be re-verified by the Company, Lifeline Service will be removed from the Customers bill.

- 6. Lifeline Service will appear as a credit or rate reduction on the Customer's bill on the next bill date following the date the Customer applied for Lifeline Service. When the Customer's eligibility precedes the previous bill, credit will also be given on one month's prior bill.
- 7. A Lifeline Service Customer cannot be disconnected for the non-payment of toll charges.
- 8. If Call Blocking Service is available and the Customer has elected Call Blocking Service, a Service Deposit cannot be collected to establish Lifeline Service. If Call Blocking Service is not available, the Company may require a Service Deposit to establish Lifeline Service.

Applicable to Service Rendered on and after:	2/1/2013	Date	Issued
PSCW Authorization by Order No.:		Letter Date	

Form 10 Rate

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
TELEPHONE RATE FILE

Exchange:	ALL
Section Number:	4
Sheet Number:	5
Amendment Number:	616

SOMERSET TELEPHONE COMPANY

Utility Name

EXCHANGE ACCESS SERVICES

LIFELINE SERVICE (Cont'd)

C. RATES AND CHARGES

The applicable monthly rate for Lifeline Service is determined by the sum of the rates for the services specified in 1. following and applying a credit based on the sum of the credits as specified in 2. following.

1. Lifeline Service

Residence Network Access Line (including EAS) at the rate specified in Section 6 of this tariff.

Touch Calling Service (if applicable) at the rate specified in Section 6 of this tariff.

911 Service (if billed on the Customer's telephone number).

End User Common Line (EUCL) Charge.

2. Lifeline Service Credits

End User Common Line (EUCL) Charge as specified in the NECA Tariff.

Federal Lifeline support credit as specified by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for Universal Service Support for Low-Income Consumers, and by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin in Wis. Admin. Code PSC 160.062, and as it may be modified in the future.

3. The Lifeline Service Monthly Credit is shown in Section 6 of this tariff.

Applicable to Service Rendered on and after:	2/1/2013	Date	Issued
PSCW Authorization by Order No.:		Letter Date	

Form 10 Rate

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
TELEPHONE RATE FILE**

Exchange:	ALL
Section Number:	6
Sheet Number:	3
Amendment Number:	616

SOMERSET TELEPHONE COMPANY

Utility Name

RATES AND CHARGES

	<u>Normal Working Hours</u>	<u>After Hours</u>	<u>Sundays And Holidays</u>
MAINTENANCE OF SERVICE CHARGE			
For Business Exchange Services	***	***	***
For Business Private Line Services	***	***	***
For Residence Exchange Services	***	***	***
RESTORAL OF SERVICE CHARGE			
Business, Per request	***	***	***
Residence, Per request	***	***	***
RETURNED CHECK CHARGE	***		

NOTE: *** -- Current rates and charges are referenced on the Company's web pages.

Services described in Section 4**BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE ACCESS RATES**

	<u>Monthly Line Rate</u>	<u>WI State USF Assessment</u>
Business 1 Party	\$ 18.20	NOTE2
Residence 1 Party ¹	10.40	NOTE2
Lines, with Trunk Hunting in addition To Business or Residential Line Charge	6.50	

NOTE 1: Monthly Basic Local Exchange Access Rates, including Federal and State taxes, are not applicable for the second exchange line when the second exchange line is requested by hearing-impaired Customers to use Two Line Voice Carryover as defined in the Wis. Admin. Code PSC 160.02 (12).

NOTE 2: The company will annually recalculate a Monthly State USF Surcharge, which will appear as a line item on customer bills.

LIFELINE SERVICE

The Lifeline Service monthly credit is \$10.00

Applicable to Service Rendered on and after:	2/1/2013	Date Issued
PSCW Authorization by Order No.:		Letter Date

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

REDACTED:

Somerset Telephone Company, Inc.

Financial Data 2013

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION